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Mr. A. B. Shetty:—" May I know, with reference to clause (*a*) of the question, whether any representation has been made by this Government to the Government of India with regard to the necessity for enhancing the import duty on coconuts?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" I want notice, Sir."

Provision for premium bulls.

* 799 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have been meeting in full the demand for premium bulls; and

(*b*) whether they propose to increase the amount allotted for this scheme?

A.—The Agricultural department has been meeting applications for premia for the maintenance of breeding bulls as far as possible from the funds provided for the year concerned. When funds did not permit the full demand to be met, applications were kept pending and sanctioned in the year following. The provision for this purpose has been increased from Rs. 4,720 in 1932–33 to Rs. 6,200 in 1933–34. A further increase in provision to Rs. 7,000 has been made in the budget of 1934–35 on the basis of the amount of premia which the Director of Agriculture expects to distribute in that year.

Industries.

Power drills in use in the Province.

* 800 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education and Excise be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Government Power Drills in and out of use respectively in the province;

(*b*) the year of their purchase, their make and price, the amount spent up-to-date on each of them on repairs; and

(*c*) the relative merits of the Drills now with the Government and the latest Drills now in the market?

A.—(*a*) Twenty-one.

(*b*) Three Calyx and three Keystone drills were in the possession of the department prior to 1917–18. Information as to the year of their purchase and their price is not available. One Sullivan Air Compressor Drill, manufactured by Messrs. Sullivan Machinery Company of Chicago, was purchased with tools and spares in 1927–28 for Rs. 7,630. The remaining 14 are Armstrong drills manufactured by Messrs. Armstrong Manufacturing Company of Waterloo, Iowa (U.S.A.). Three of them were purchased in

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1925–26, three in 1927–28 and eight in 1928–29. They cost Rs. 33,000 each on an average, inclusive of cost of necessary accessories. Information as to the amount spent on repairs on each of them is not available as no separate accounts have been maintained.

(c) The choice of drills for water boring is confined to two types namely (a) the Rotary Core type and (b) the Portable Percussion type and of the two, the latter is considered to be the more suitable. It is reported that they have given satisfactory results in practice.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" I asked the Government for information as to the number of drills which are in order and which are out of order and the answer is 21. May I take it that all these 21 drills are in working condition? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I am sorry the hon. Member's question was somewhat vague and we did not understand it to mean what he says now. We thought he wanted the aggregate number of drills there were, in use and not in use."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" Now at least may I ask the Hon. Minister for information about the number of drills that are working and the number out of order? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" May I ask whether the drills referred to in clause (b) are ever sent to outside applicants? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" It is said that no separate accounts have been maintained. May I ask whether the amount spent on repairs in some cases is much more than the amount necessary for the purchase of new ones? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" I cannot say that."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" It is stated in clause (c) that out of the two drills, the Portable Percussion type is found to be more suitable. May I know how many are there of the Rotary Core type? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Notice."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar:—" One final word I would say to the Hon. Minister and that is to appeal to him to kindly have this question examined and see if he cannot improve the working of this department? "

The Hon. Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar:—" Thanks."